

FREE

GRATIS

TRI-LINGUAL

# **IRONBOUND**

## **VOICES**

Vol. 18 No. 4

Winter 1996



*Peace Poster Contest Winners!*

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English p. 1 - 9, Português p. 10 - 12, Español p. 13 - 15

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## ICC Begins A New Program

The Ironbound Community Corporation has begun a new program: the **Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Drop In Center**.

"The Drop-In Center is a place where women who think they may be pregnant can come to be tested, and to get the prenatal care they need," says Delya Holt, who is the Director for the new program.

Pregnant women will get a number of services, including community baby showers, immunizations and referrals to the WIC program. The program will also develop support groups for teens, single parents and grandparents, and educational seminars on parenting skills.

All the program services are for women of all ages, and will be free and confidential.

In spite of a heavy snow, more than 50 people jammed the ICC office at 95 Fleming Ave., on Jan. 31, 1996 for the opening of the new program.

"We are very pleased to be able to offer this new and important service for Ironbound residents," said Joseph Della Fave, Executive Director of Ironbound Community Corporation.

The ICC Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Center is one of two similar programs opening in Newark. The other is located at St. Columba's Neighborhood Club.

Aracely Roman and Cleo Gonzalez are also members of the new program's staff.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 344-7210.

### Summer Arts Program Available

For Children 8 to 12 years old. All summer, all day. Breakfast & lunch included. Special classes include things like playwriting, gym and crafts. For more information call:

432 Lafayette St: 465-9047

95 Fleming Ave: 344-7210

317 Elm St: 589-6873



*Delya Holt, Director of the new Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Program for the Ironbound Community Corporation, speaks at Open House for the new program held on Jan. 31, 1996.*



*Sharonda Clark is the new director for the Ironbound Community Corporation's Afterschool Program. The program, located at 432 Lafayette St., provides supervised care, tutoring assistance, snacks and recreation for young people after school. Sharonda is the mother of a new baby, and has recently been doubling as caterer for ICC events. Welcome Sharonda!*



## *Ironbound Stories Revisited*

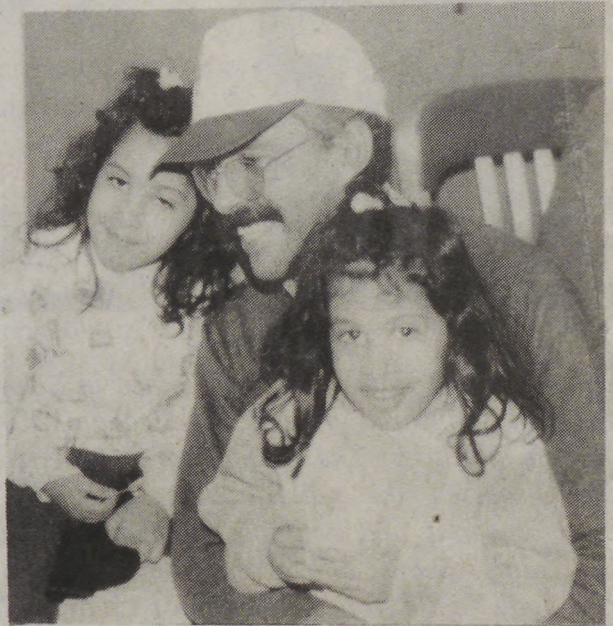
*Here are updates on some of the important construction or renovation projects which are proposed for ironbound. These are stories which Ironbound Voices has been covering in recent issues because they will affect the quality of life in this neighborhood:*

### **Ironbound Stadium**

The field that is used for baseball and soccer has been cleared of toxics and approved for use by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). According to Al Zach, Director of Engineering for the City of Newark, a notice for bids on the construction of the new swimming pool will be sent out in February. A separate notice will go out for the construction and operation of an underground pumping system. This system will be built below the pool and will pump and purify the groundwater there. No clean up is happening on the football field, which will be used to park and store the construction materials and equipment. Councilman Henry Martinez said there are also plans to remodel the inside of the Ironbound Stadium because of water leaks into the building.

### **Minor League Baseball Stadium**

In a recent interview, Al Zach, Director of Engineering for the City of Newark, said the City remains interested in having a minor league stadium at Riverbank Park. "There are 2 problems at this point," said Mr. Zach. "One problem is that there is no actual team, although one of the developers owns the Newark Bears logo." Mr. Zach said another problem is that funds which were supposed to come from the Board of Education are uncertain at this point. The project requires funding from a variety of sources: City, County, Board of Education. The Board of Education was considering using the new Stadium for school functions.



*Washington Andrade, Ironbound Community Corporation staff member, joins in the celebration of the new Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies program, with his two daughters, Kathleen and Carla.*

### **River Waterfront Park**

Final designs for the park along the Passaic River in Newark will be public in March. Ironbound Community Corporation and Ironbound Committee Against Toxic waste hosted an open community meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss the draft plans in October. ICC also submitted written comments on the Army Corps of plans, along with other community organizations. Many of the ideas and concerns of community groups have been included and considered by the Army Corps. To move forward, the Waterfront Park needs city and state support, as well as federal. Governor Whitman has come out in favor of the Park. The City of Newark still has to develop a Master Plan for the waterfront area.





### *Autumn Years*

*Senior citizens from Ironbound joined in a special program sponsored by the St. Stephan's United Church of Christ. The group shared experiences, and discussed the natural aging process, and exceptions to it, and available community resources for seniors. Shown above (from left to right) are: Rev. Judy Vasile from St. Stephan's Church; Cathy Kutner and Cecil Temesgen from the Geropsychiatric Department of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey; and Pat Danielak, Director of Senior Citizen Programs at the Ironbound Community Corporation, who served as resource persons for the program.*

### ***South St. Zoning Case: "It's Not Over"***

The case of the proposed "juice bar" to be located on South St., near South St. School, continues.

According to Rev. Dr. Durhan, from the First Mt. Zion Baptist Church, the owners tried to avoid the local zoning board, and went to court, arguing that it was "unconstitutional" for the local zoning board to be involved. However, the Judge disagreed, and the case was dismissed, and sent back to the local zoning board. A date to rehear the case at the zoning board has not been set.

"Hopefully when the date is set, a large group of residents will attend," said Rev. Durhan. The neighbors say the "juice bar" would be a bad influence in their area because it would feature nude or partially clad dancers.

### **Is PVSC Hiding Something?**

Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) will have some questions to answer about the process it is using to pick the companies that get its sludge.

PVSC originally scheduled a public hearing about what companies it was choosing on Feb. 15, 1996. Members of the Clean Sludge Coalition (CSC) protested, saying they hadn't even been notified. Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste is a member of CSC, and CSC members have been attending all PVSC meetings. The report which was supposed to be available to the public about who was chosen and why was not available. PVSC wanted to charge CSC lots of money to get it. Also the public hearing was scheduled during the day when no one could come.

When CSC protested, and an article appeared in the Star Ledger about this strange way of doing things, PVSC quickly changed its mind. Now they are going to reschedule their hearing, and provide CSC with the documents free of charge.

### *In Memory*

The Ironbound community and members of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste will greatly miss Anna Da Costa, who died this winter. Anna was the very best kind of ICATW member: active. She marched in demonstrations with ICATW, hosted meetings in her home, and helped organize fundraisers. She was always busy, with family or senior activities - going on bus rides even in the late stages of her illness. Anna was a positive person, and her energy seemed endless. We will miss her very much.



# Will Sludge Plants Be Good Neighbors?

What do you do to get rid of sewage sludge? For many years it was dumped in the ocean. Then environmental groups in New Jersey called for - and won - an end to ocean dumping, knowing that New Jersey residents wanted clean ocean water for swimming and fishing.

In response, the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC), which processes Newark's sewage sludge in their plant on Wilson Ave., wanted to build the world's largest sludge incinerator. The **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste (ICATW)** fought against another polluting incinerator being built here. As a result of ICATW's efforts, PVSC decided to investigate other ways to get rid of sludge. They found out that there are indeed ways to get rid of it that don't pollute, and where the sludge can be put to "beneficial use".

Two such companies that clean sewage sludge so that it can be used for something positive are planning to begin operations in Ironbound in the near future. **Wheelabrator**, is located on Avenue A off Rt. 21, in the old Waste Management Transfer Station building. **Newark Recycling and Composting Co. (NRCC)** is located at 360 Avenue P.

"Representatives of both these companies met with ICATW and made a lot of promises. Now we have to make sure that they do what they promised," said June Kruszewski, from ICATW.

In response to ICATW demands, both companies promised to:

- 1) Give Newark applicants preferences to jobs.
- 2) Keep their trucks off neighborhood residential streets.
- 3) Shut down if there are any problems with bad smells (at least until the problem can be discovered and corrected).

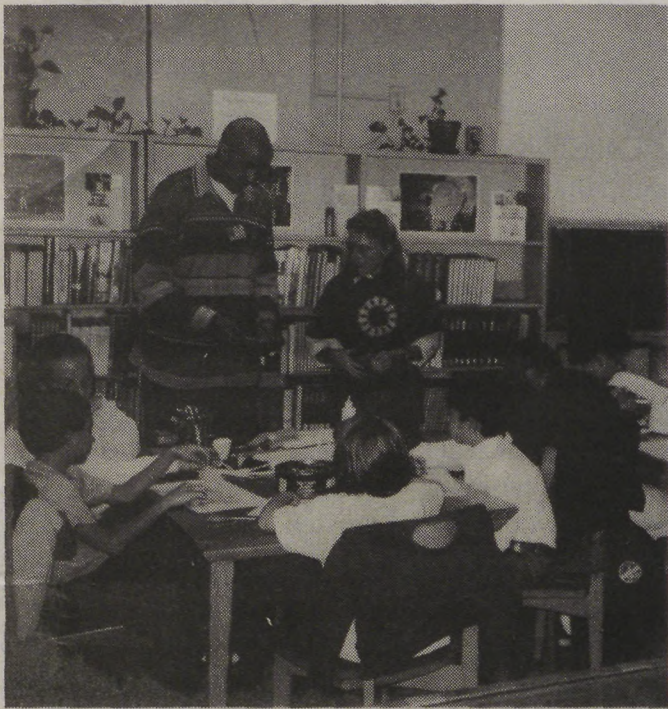
- 4) Contribute something back to the Ironbound Community, and report to the community on a regular basis.

**Wheelabrator** has a contract to take all the sewage sludge from the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission, anywhere from 125 to 250 wet tons a day (or 6 trucks a day). Half of that sludge would be sent out of state, and half would be processed here. The building which already exists on the property would be renovated, beginning in June 1996. The sludge would be treated with chemicals and heat, and then cooled in another area. No chemicals should be released into the air through the vent. When it is finished, the product could be used by farmers who need to improve the lime in their soil, or used as dirt on top of landfills, or in median strips in roads. Four inspections per year are required, and surprise inspections could also happen.

**Newark Recycling and Composting Co** spent two years looking for a site which would not involve travelling on any residential streets. They will process up to 500 tons of sludge a day, taking sludge from the open market. NRCC has enough road space to make sure trucks going there will never have to line up or block regular roads. "We will never have to pass a residential home, since we are right off the Turnpike exit," said company spokesman Rob Jones. The composting process will involve taking organic waste materials (food, soiled and wet paper, cardboard, leaves, grass, wastewater sludge) and turning them into "high quality compost," which can be used in farming. The company will build an enclosed facility, and will hire approximately 30 permanent workers.

"We have got to carefully monitor both of these companies, and make sure that they keep their promises. They have got to be good neighbors to Ironbound residents," said Arnold Cohen, from ICATW.





## Van Buren St. Library To Undergo Major Renovations

The Van Buren St. Branch of the Newark Public Library will be undergoing major renovations. The Library will be relocated to a temporary home at 109 Monroe St. The 140 Van Buren St. location will close on Feb. 16 and the new location will open on Feb. 26. The library will continue to have an activity room, and preschool programs, and a major portion of its books will continue to be available.

The library is a great community resource. Shown in the photograph above, are children enjoying a special crafts program along with the Newark Museum. Children colored maps of Puerto Rico, in honor of Hispanic month.

### 20 Minute Heart Check

St. James Hospital is offering "20 Minute Heart Check" on March 16, 1996 for men and women over 55. The Heart Check is offered free to Senior Passport members, and at \$50 to others. Call for an appointment at 673-1291.

## Plans For Tax Justice

Ten years ago **Ironbound Voices** newspaper researched the problem of Newark's tax revaluation. The experts agree: if revaluation happens in Newark, homeowners will end up paying more taxes, and businesses will pay less.

So what can be done?

There are different kinds of tax systems which are used in other places in the United States, which would be more fair for Newark residents.

One solution is **tax classification**. This would create new tax rates for homes, factories and office buildings, so that the amount of taxes paid by each type of property after revaluation would remain the same. Obviously, this would benefit homeowners, so businesses would not be in favor of it.

Another solution is called a **circuit breaker**. With this system, there would be a limit on the amount of property taxes a person would pay based on how much money the person makes.

If Newark homeowners and tenants (who also pay taxes) organize together, they **can stop** the huge tax increases due to revaluation. People in other states have done it before.

## Free Tax Help Available

If you missed the free assistance with your taxes at Ironbound Community Corporation on Saturday, Feb. 24, don't worry. Tax help is available for the elderly or those with low incomes through April 15 at the Newark Public Library at 5 Washington St. on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 PM, and on Saturdays from 9 AM to noon. Accountants for the Public Interest runs the free tax assistance program each year.



## Revaluation: Businesses Win, Homeowners Lose

Residents of Newark will pay more taxes, and businesses will pay less, if Newark goes through a "tax revaluation." A "revaluation" means that a tax assessor looks at each property and figures out how much taxes should be. In most cities this is done every few years, but in Newark, it has not been done for 39 years.

If the revaluation happens, some residential property owners taxes will skyrocket. The amount of taxes collected will be more, so the tax rate will probably be lowered. But even that may not be much help to some homeowners. According to one tax lawyer, some taxpayers may pay as much as 78% more.

Newark's businesses and commercial properties will probably end up paying less taxes. Why? One reason is that commercial and industrial properties are generally assessed too low. When homes are assessed, you can check to see if the assessment is accurate by looking at the price similar homes have sold for. But industrial and commercial properties do not often sell. Sometimes their assessments are based on rents in the building, often they have "inadequate information", according to Robert Rubinstein of the Realty Appraisers.

Big companies and corporations also have the resources to appeal their assessments, and get their taxes reduced. Last year, Newark lost \$13 million because of tax appeals, mostly large corporations, according to the Star Ledger. Like everyone else, these businesses will then be taxed at the lower tax rate, and their taxes will go down.

Over the years many Newark businesses, including big profitable ones, have received tax abatements over the years, meaning that for years they have paid less than their fair share of taxes. For example, the Port Authority pays Newark a small fee for the land it uses, instead of its fair share of taxes. This is in effect, a subsidy for the airports, and costs Newark taxpayers over \$100 million a year.

Many people have criticized the city's policy of giving tax abatements to big profitable companies. "We have often said it makes no sense to give big companies that are making big profits tax breaks, while homeowners are struggling every day to make ends meet," said Vic de Luca, of the Ironbound Community Corporation. "Now businesses again stand to gain, while homeowners lose. It isn't fair. There has to be a better way." (see box)

*Revaluation...a major shift of the tax burden from the commercial district to residential property owners.*

According to the Star Ledger (Jan. 24, 1996) Councilman Donald Tucker said it is believed that revaluation will have the same effect on the city as it would have had two decades ago: a major shift of the tax burden from the commercial district to residential property owners.

The Star Ledger said that the revaluation in Camden in 1992 "sent tax bills soaring in affluent areas, while the aging commercial district felt little or no effect."

In Jan. 1995, the Essex County Tax Board passed a resolution ordering Newark to revalue its property, and asking the Attorney General to go to court to force the city to do so. The City Council has to vote to do "revaluation", and some Council members are opposed. Once the Council does vote for it, it will take two years to redraw the city's tax maps. New tax rates would probably not go into effect until 1998.

In Newark, 47% of the property is tax exempt. 30%, including many large businesses, get tax abatements. Among these are many of the biggest and most profitable companies in Newark. Only 23% of the properties pay the full tax rate currently.



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## Clean Up Study At Port Newark

The **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes (ICATW)** along with Rutgers Marine & Coastal Sciences Department hosted a meeting on Jan. 25, 1996 about methods which are being studied to clean up contaminated mud in Newark Harbor.

Seven companies which have been chosen to be part of the study were present to answer questions about their operations.

"This is a very exciting national moment," said Cindy Zipf from Clean Water Action. "Citizen groups want to clean up this contaminated dirt, and keep the harbor open." Environmental groups worked hard to stop the dumping of contaminated dirt in the ocean, and new ways of getting rid of contaminated dirt and silt have to be found. When silt and contaminated dirt pile up in the harbor, it lessens the water level, and makes it impossible for some ships to use the harbor.

"Decontamination will bring an end to ocean dumping of contaminated dredged material. It will also result in a productive port, a productive fishing and tourist industry, more area jobs, and a safer, cleaner marine environment for people to use and enjoy," said Congressman Frank Pallone Jr. who sent his representative to the meeting.

***"When contamination affects our lives, we try to make people listen to us and do something to clean it up."***

Councilman Henry Martinez said he hoped some of the technology being used to clean up the contaminated dirt from the ocean will be able to be used to clean up "brownfields" - old contaminated industrial sites, of which Newark and Ironbound have many. Councilman Martinez also specifically mentioned Pierson's Creek in Ironbound, which is so full of silt that it causes severe flooding on Wilson Ave., and said perhaps the new methods could be applied there. Councilman Martinez said the harbor clean up study has his "wholehearted support."

June Kruszewski, Board President for Ironbound Community Corporation, and a member of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste, said, "When contamination affects our lives, we try very hard to make people listen to us and do something to clean it up. We have lived here all our lives, and we are the ones who are affected by the pollution."

Ms. Kruszewski pointed out the fact that a number of incinerators were slated for the Ironbound, including one proposal to burn toxic wastes on boats in the ocean, and were defeated by organized community opposition.

Representatives from the federal Environmental Protection Agency, and the state Department of Environmental Protection were present, and gave the harbor study their strong support.

There are other proposals for getting rid of the contaminated mud, which could cause other environmental problems.

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### Elizabeth Fights Incinerator Ash

Community residents and churches in Elizabeth have been fighting against a proposal to pave Center Drive with incinerator ash from the Warren County incinerator. Because of the strong community opposition, the Elizabeth City Council recently passed a resolution against the project.

It is uncertain whether the incinerator ash is safe for human health, or whether the heavy metals and toxics from the incineration process mean the ash is a "hazardous waste." The road which was to be paved is the road leading to the IKEA furniture store.

Currently, the incinerator owners pay to transport and dump their ashes in a landfill. It will save them money if they can get rid of it for road cover.

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## Peace Poster Winners!

Students from several different schools had winning posters in the **1995 Peace Poster Contest** sponsored by the **Ironbound Peace Education Project**.

Each fall, the Ironbound Peace Education Project (IPEP) sponsors the Poster Contest to encourage students, from first grade to high school, to think about world peace and how to achieve it.

This year's winning students (shown in the cover photograph) were: Lisa Marie Simoes, Jonathon Da Silva, Diana Simoes, and Stephanie Alegre from St. Lucy Fillippini Academy; Cynthia Teixeira from Wilson Ave. School; Judith Ann Ferreira and Jeannette Caro from Our Lady of Good Counsel Grammar School; Andrea Benevides from St. Benedict's Academy; Ernesto Gonzalez, Nhyema Kelly, Mark Komal, and Idara Inyang from St. Michael's School; Victoria Lane from Project Link Community School; and Sandra Esteves from St. Francis Xavier School.

At a Spaghetti Dinner held in December at St. Stephan's Church, the winners received certificates. Suzanne Salsbury, the daughter of Dr. Israel Bernstein who practiced in Ironbound for 40 years, presented cash prizes from the Dr. & Mrs. Bernstein Peace Prize Fund. The Bernsteins were active in groups working for peace and social justice.

Those who came enjoyed the delicious spaghetti dinner made by Roni Faulkner, and served by a team of volunteers. Sister Connie Tanksy, from St. Vincent's Academy, led the singing. Teixeira's Bakery donated a beautiful cake which said "Peace on Earth".

The winning posters were on display in the Childrens' Room of the Van Buren St. Public Library during the month of January 1996.



*Suzanne Salsbury, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Israel Bernstein, presents prizes from the Dr. & Mrs. Bernstein Peace Prize Fund to the winning students.*

## IF

If you don't know your past,  
then you won't love yourselves.  
If you don't love yourselves,  
then you won't love your children.  
If you don't love your children, you  
definitely can't teach them.  
If you can't teach your children,  
then they can't possibly learn.  
If our children do not learn,  
then they won't love themselves.  
If they don't love themselves,  
then we will surely die!

*Abena Walker*



## Actualidades

*Eis algumas das últimas notícias sobre importantes projectos de construção ou renovação previsto para o bairro do Ironbound. Estas são algumas novidades sobre factos que Ironbound Voices tem coberto em recentes números e que afectarão a qualidade de vida deste populoso bairro:*

### Ironbound Stadium

O campo que é utilizado para prática do beisebol e do futebol já foi limpo de todos os resíduos tóxicos e aprovado pelo Departamento de Protecção ao Meio Ambiente (DEP). Segundo Al Zach, Chefe do Departamento de Engenharia da cidade de Newark, editais para propostas para a construção da nova piscina serão publicados durante Fevereiro. Um aviso separado sairá para a construção e operação do novo sistema de fornecimento de água à piscina. Este sistema será construído por debaixo da piscina e fornecerá e purificará ali a água. Não se está realizando qualquer limpeza no campo de futebol americano, que será usado para armazenamento de materiais de construção e equipamento. O Conselheiro Municipal Henry Martinez afirmou também que há planos para renovar o Ironbound Stadium por dentro porque há infiltração de águas no edifício.

### Estádio de Beisebol Para Liga Menor

Numa recente entrevista, Al Zach, Chefe do Departamento de Engenharia da cidade de Newark, disse que a cidade continua interessada em possuir um estádio para Liga Menor no Riverbank Park. "Há dois problemas nesta altura," disse o sr. Zach. "Um problema é que actualmente não existe uma equipa, embora um dos interessados possua os direitos do emblema dos Newark Bears." O sr. Zach disse que outro problema são os fundos que devveriam vir o Departamento de Educação e nesta altura são incertos. O projecto envolve fundos vindos de várias fontes: cidade, condado, Direcção Escolar. Está última entidade estava a considerar utilizar o novo estádio para competições escolares.

## Vencedores do Projecto Sobre A Paz

*Os alunos vencedores do Concurso de Cartazes do Projecto Sobre a Paz (mostra no coberta desta revista) foram:*

*Lisa Marie Simoes, Jonathon Da Silva, Diana Simoes e Stephanie Alegre da St. Lucy Fillippini Academy; Cynthia Texeira da Wilson Ave. School; Judith Ann Fereira e Jeannette Caro da Our Lady of Good Counsel School; Andrea Benevides de St. Benedict's Academy; Ernesto Gonzalez, Nyhema Kelly, Mark Komal, e Idara Inyang da St. Michael's School; Victoria Lane da Project Link Community School; e Sandra Esteves da St. Francis Xavier School.*

## ICC Inicia Um Novo Programa

A Comunidade Corporative do Ironbound deu inicio a um novo programa: **Centro de Assistência de Saude para as Futuras Mães.**

"O Centro de Assistência é um lugar onde todas mulheres que suspeitam estarem grávidas, poderão ter os devidos testes requeridos afim de constatarem a gravidêz, bem como receberem todas as orientações do pré-natal," segundo Delya Holt, diretora deste novo programa.

As mulheres grávidas receberão muitos beneficios, de festinhas para o futuro bebê, imunização, até beneficios providos pelo WIC, ajuda alimenticia. Esta provisto tambem, o funcionamento de um centro de apoio ao adolescente, mães solteiras bem como avos. Fuincionara tambem uma parte educativa, a qual ensinara, os novos progenitores como cuidar dos filhos.

Todos os servicos oferecidos pelo programa é dedicado às mulheres de todas as faixas etárias, será gráti e estritamente confidencial.

Apesar de uma grande tempestade de neve, mais de 50 pessoas compareceram aos escritorios do ICC, localizado no 95 da Fleming Av. (onde sera desenvolvido as atividades) afim de comemorarem a inauguração.

Por mais informação: 344-7208.



## Reavaliação: As Empresas Ganham, Os Proprietários Das Zonas Residenciais Perdem

Os residentes de Newark pagarão mais taxas e as empresas pagarão menos, se Newark for reavaliada. Uma "reavaliação" quer dizer que um assessor de impostos inspeciona uma propriedade e atribue uma importância a pagar pela mesma como imposto predial. Na maioria das cidades isto faz-se regularmente de anos a anos. Mas em Newark a reavaliação já não é feita há 39 anos.

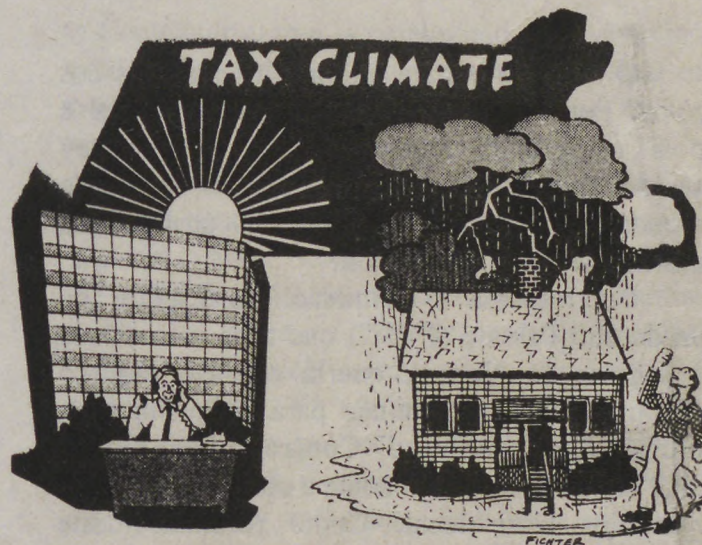
Se a reavaliação se concretizar, os impostos prediais das casas de habitação subirão. A quantidade de taxas colectadas será maior, por isso a percentagem em relação ao valor tributável será menor. Mas mesmo assim tal sistema não vai ajudar os proprietários. De acordo com um advogado que especializa em taxas os proprietários das casas de habitação poderão vir a pagar 78% mais.

As propriedades das empresas de Newark provavelmente acabarão por pagar menos, porque os seus valores matriciais têm sido mantidos mais próximos da realidade e por isso aquelas serão consideradas dentro de uma classe com percentagens mais baixas.

Apesar do facto que muitas empresas em Newark, incluindo as mais rentáveis receberam taxas bonificadas por muitos anos. Isso quer dizer que em todo esse tempo pagaram menos que o justo valor.

Muito gente criticou a política da cidade oferecer taxas bonificadas a grandes companhias lucrativas. "O temos dito muitas vezes que não faz sentido dar às grandes companhias que têm lucros elevadas, taxas bonificadas, enquanto os proprietários residenciais lutam todos os dias para sobreviver," disse Vic De Luca que foi activo na ICC (Associação Comunitária do Ironbound). "Assim as empresas ganham e os proprietários residenciais perdem. Não é justo. Tem que haver uma maneira melhor.

De acordo com o Jornal Star Ledger de 26 de Janeiro, 1996, o vereador Donald Tucker disse



que se pensa que a reavaliação terá o mesmo efeito na cidade que teria há vinte anos: uma transferência maior da carga dos impostos do distrito comercial para os proprietários residenciais. O Star Ledger disse que a reavaliação da cidade Camden em 1992, fez subir assustadoramente os impostos das áreas afluentes, enquanto os distritos comerciais envelhecidos sentiram pouco ou nenhum efeito.

Em Janeiro de 1995, o Departamento de Taxas do Condado de Essex passou uma resolução intimando Newark a reavaliar as suas propriedades, e a pedir ao procurador geral do estado que leve a cidade a tribunal para que esta seja forçada a cumprir a lei. A Assembleia Municipal terá de votar na reavaliação e alguns dos vereadores não concordam com ela. Após o voto da assembleia levará dois anos a recompor os mapas da cidade, e os novos valores não terão efeito até 1998.

Em Newark 47% das propriedades estão isentas de impostos quer dizer que não pagam taxas algumas. Estão incluídas igrejas, escolas, etc. 30% das propriedades incluindo muitas empresas grandes, têm taxas bonificadas. Entre estas há muitas das maiores e mais lucrativas companhias em Newark. Só 23% das propriedades pagam impostos na totalidade.



## Será Que As Estações De Tratamento De Esgotos Fazem Bem Aos Vizinhos?

O que se faz para eliminar os resíduos dos esgotos? Por muitos anos foram lançados ao mar e depois os grupos ambientais de New Jersey requeram e venceram o fim dos despejos no oceano pensando no valor que os residentes atribuem as águas limpas onde se banham.

Em resposta à Comissão dos Esgotos do Vale do Rio Passaic (PVSC) que trata os resíduos dos esgotos de Newark queria construir aqui o maior incinerador do mundo para os queimar. A **Comité do Ironbound Contra Lixo Tóxico (ICATW)** lutou e venceu contra a construção doutro incinerador neste local. Como resultado deste esforço, a PVSC decidiu investigar outros meios de eliminar tais resíduos. Verificaram na verdade que existiam meios de transformar aqueles resíduos em algo positivo sem poluição.

Duas companhias que transformam os resíduos para uso benéfico estão a planejar o início destas operações no bairro do Ironbound. São elas: **Wheelabrator**, situada na Avenida A., na velha estação de processamento e transferência de lixo; **Reciclagem e Compostagem de Newark Inc. (NRCC)** situada no número 360 da Avenida P.

"Representantes de ambas estas empresas numa reunião com o **Comité do Ironbound Contra Lixo Tóxico**. Fizem muitas promessas. Agora teremos de impor que cumpram essas promessas," disse June Kruszewski da ICATW.

Em resposta às exigências da ICATW, as empresas prometeram:

- 1) De preferência dar emprego aos residentes de Newark.
- 2) Não cruzarem as zonas residenciais do bairro com os seus camiões.
- 3) Fazer a operação de processamento se surgirem maus cheiros (até que descubram e corrijam o problema).
- 4) Contribuírem com algo para a comunidade e fornecerem informações regularmente.

A Wheelabrator tem um contrato com a PVSC para remover os resíduos que andam à volta de 125 a 150 toneladas líquidas diariamente (6 camiões por dia). Metade daqueles esgotos seriam levados para fora do estado e a outra metade seria aqui processada. O edifício existente na propriedade seria renovado, a partir do Junho de 1996. Os esgotos seriam tratados quimicamente e aquecidos. Seriam então arrefecidos noutra área. Não seriam emitidos para a atmosfera quaisquer compostos químicos pelas chaminés. Quando processados, os esgotos podem ser usados pelos agricultores para melhorar o teor de cálcio no solo ou usar os mesmos para cobertura das lixeiras. Serão exigidas quatro inspeções anuais bem como outras de surpresa.

A Companhia de Newark de Reciclagem e Compostagem (NRCC) levou dois anos a procurar um sítio que evitasse o transporte através das ruas residenciais. Processarão até 500 toneladas de esgotos líquidos por dia suprimindo parte destes do mercado livre. A NRCC tem espaços de rodagem suficientes para que os seus camiões não formem bichas ou bloqueiem as estradas normais. "Nunca passaremos pelas zonas residenciais, uma vez que estamos situados numa das saídas do Turnpike," diz o Rob Jones da NRCC. O processo de compostagem consistirá em usar quantidades de lixo orgânico (comida humedecida, papel molhado, cartão, folhas, relva, a lama dos esgotos) e formar um composto de "boa qualidade", que pode ser usado como fertilizante para a agricultura. A companhia construirá um recinto fechado, e empregará aproximadamente 30 operários permanentes.

"Teremos de fiscalizar cuidadosamente estas duas companhias, e verificar que fazem o que prometeram. Terão que ser bons vizinhos dos residentes do bairro do Ironbound," disse Arnold Cohen, da ICATW.



## Las Plantas de Desperdicios de las Cloacas: Seran Buenos Vecinos?

¿Que es lo que usted hace para deshacerse del desperdicio del desaque? Por muchos años este fue bordado al oceano. El grupo de ambientales voto y gano para parar que estos desperdicios de las cloacas fuesen echados en el oceano. Ellos dicen que las personas desean agua limpia en el oceano para nadar.

En respuesta, la Commission de Desperdicios de las Cloacas de Passaic Valley (PVSC) quienes procesan las desperdicios de las cloacas de Newark quieren hacer el incinerador mas grande del mundo. El **Comite del Ironbound Encontra los Desperdicios Toxicos (ICATW)** pelea contra otro incinerador quien nos iba a dañar el ambiente. Como resultado de este esfuerzo, PVSC decidio investigar otras maneras de deshacerse de estos desperdicios. Ellos encontraron que de echo hay otras maneras de deshacerse de este sin hacerle daño al ambiente y usarlo para algo positivo.

Dos de las compañías que limpian el desperdicio de las cloacas y lo reusan en algo beneficioso planean empezar a operar en el Ironbound. Estas compañías son: **Wheelabrator** localizada en Avenue A, y **Newark Recycling y Compositing Co. (NRCC)**, localizada en Avenue P.

"Representantes de estas dos compañías hicieron muchas promesas. Ahora tenemos que asegurarnos que hagan lo que ofrecieron," dijo June Kruszewski desupues de una reunión con todos los representantes del ICATW.

En respuestas a las demandas echas por el ICATW, las compañías prometieron:

- 1) Darle a los residentes de Newark preferencia de trabajo.
- 2) Mantener sus camiones fuera de nuestro vecindarios.
- 3) Mantenerse cerrado si hay algun problema que area mal olor hasta que el problema sea identificado y corregido.

- 4) Contribuir algo a la comunidad del Ironbound al igual que reportarse regularmente para todos estar muy informados.

**Wheelabrator** tiene un contrato para quedarse con la los desperdicios de las cloacas de la "Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission". Esto es 125 a 250 de toneladas mojadas al dia o 6 camiones al dia. La mitad de esto desperdicios puede ser enviada fuera del estado y la otra mitad ser procesada aqui. El edificio que ya esta en esta localidad tendria que ser renovada. Esto empezaria en junio 1996. Los desperdicios puede ser tratado con quimicas y calentado. Este seria enfriado en otro lugar. Ninguna quimica debe salir al aire por el ventilador. Cuando sea terminado puede ser usado para que se use como tierco para sembrar, o para llenar los espacios solos. Cuatro inspecciones al año son requeridas y estas pueden llevar a cabo en cualquier momento.

La **NRCC** estudio dos años buscando por un lugar que no requiera transporte por calles residenciales. Esto procesara 500 toneladas de desperdicios de las cloacas al dia. NRCC tiene suficiente calles para asegurarse que no se haga problema de traficos. "Nunca tendremos que pasar por calles residenciales ya que estamos en la salida del Turnpike," dijo Rob Jones del NRCC. El proceso de compositar envuelve usando desperdicios organicos (comida danada, sapel y cajas mojadas, hojas, gramas y agua de desperdicios) y volviendo esto en un composito de "alta calidad" que se puede usar en las fincas. La compañía construira una facilidad cerrada y empleara aproximadamente 30 empleados permanentes.

"Tenemos que cuidadosamente cuidar estas dos compañías y asegurarnos que las promesas que hicieron las mantenean. Ellos tienen que ser buenos vecinos para los residentes del Ironbound," dijo Arnold Cohen del ICATW.



## Reevaluación: Negocios Ganan, Los Que Tienes Casas Pierden

Residentes de la Ciudad de Newark van a pagar mas impuestos y negocios van a pagar menos, si la ciudad de Newark pasa por una "reevaluación de impuestos."

Una "reevaluación" significa que el asesor de impuestos miran a una propiedad y figuran cuanto seran los impuestos. En la mayoría de ciudades, esto se hace cada varios de años. Pero en Newark esto no se hecho en 39 años!

Si la "reevaluación sucede, los impuestos de propiedades residenciales van a brincar. La cantidad de impuestos que se van a collectar vas a ser mas, y por resultado los impuestos ser en bajado. Pero todavia eso no será bastante para ayudar los que tienen casas. Um abogado que especialisa en impuestos dice los que pagan impuestos residenciales pagan 78% si no mas.

Los negocios de Newark y propiedades comerciales van quisas pagar menos impuestos, porque sus valores assesado se han quedado mas corrientes y ellos seran impondidos los impuestos mas bajo. Esto aunque mucho negocios, incluyendo los grandes, han recibido abatements de impuestos durante los años, que significa que por años, ellos pagan menos de los que sinceremente les corresponde.

Muchas gente critica la polica de la ciudad de dando abatements de impuestos a companias grandes. "Nosotros en muchas ocasiones hemos dicho que no es combeniente para dar companias grandes que estan haciendo mucho dinero abatements de impuestos, durante las personas que tienen casas estan teniendo problemas con dinero dia a dia," dice Vic De Luca, de la Corporación de la Comunidad de Ironbound. "Negocios ahora otra ves se van a poder a tener ganancias, pero los que tienen casas pierden. Tienes que ver otra manera."

En el Star Ledger (Enero 24, 1996), el Councilman Donald Tucker dijo que es algo que es creido que la "reevaluación" vas a tener el mismo effecto a la ciudad que tuvo dos decedas atras: un cambio majormente de imponer impuestos a lo que le pertenece residencias y no a la propiedades comerciales.

El Star Ledger dice que la reevaluación de Camden en 1992 "mandaron los billes de impuestos volaron en areas affluente, durante en distritos comerciales no sintieron nada de effecto."

En Enero de 1995, la Comission de Impuestos de el County de Essex passarón la reevluación de Newark, ordenande a Newark a reevaluar su propiedad y preguntando el Abogado General a ir a la corte a forzarlo hacerlo.

El Concilado de la Ciudad tiene que votar para ser una reevaluación, y varios de lo miembros estan opponidos Cuando se vota vas a cojer años para reprintar las mapas de impuestos de la Ciudad y los nuevos impuestos no empiezan cojer effecto hasta 1998.

En Newark, 47% de la propiedad no tiene que pagar impuestos. Estos incluye iglesias, escuelas, etc. 30% de estas propiedades tienen abatements de sus impuestos, incluyendo negocios grandes. En estos negocios incluye los mas profitable y grandes companias en Newark. Solamente 23% de las propiedades pagan los impuestos neccesarios.

### *Los Ganadores Del Proyecto De Paz*

*Los ganadores de este ano en el Concurso de Carteles de Paz, patrocinado por Proyecto de Educación de Paz de Ironbound (demostrado en la primera pagina) fueron:*

*Lisa Marie Simoes, Jonathon Da Silva, Diana Simoes, y Stephanie Alegre de St. Lucy Fillippini; Cynthia Texeira de Escuela de Wilson Ave.; Judith Ann Ferreira y Jeannette Caro de Our Lady of Good Counsel; Andrea Benevides de la Academia de St. Benedict' Ernesto Gonzalez, Nyhema Kelly, Mark Komal y Idara Inyang de Escuela de St. Michael; Victoria Lane de Project Link Community School; y Sandra Esteves de Escuela de St. Francis.*



## ***Historias Recreadas de Ironbound***

*Estas son algunas de las historias que han sido reportadas por Voces de Ironbound en eventos recientes debido a que ello afecta la calidad de vida de este vecindario:*

### **El Estadio de Ironbound**

El terreno que se está usando para soccer y baseball ha sido ya limpiado de tóxicos y aprobado para usarlo por el DEP (Departamento de Protección de Ambiente). De acuerdo a Al Zach, Director de Ingeniería de la Ciudad de Newark, están procesando un plan para la construcción de una nueva piscina. La construcción llevará un sistema por debajo de la tierra que limpie el agua y la que quede debajo de la tierra no se contaminará. Todavía no se ha limpiado el área donde se juega football, donde también se quedarán el equipo y los materiales de construcción. El Consejal Henry Martinez, dijo que hay planes para remodelar el estadio por dentro, debido a los goteros que existen dentro de esa área del edificio.

### **Estadio de "Baseball" de Ligas Menores**

En una reciente entrevista, Al Zach, Director de Ingeniería para la Ciudad de Newark, dijo que la ciudad sigue interesada en tener un equipo de Ligas Menores en el Estadio de Riverbank Park. "Solo hay dos problemas que hay que resolver. Lo no hay en la actualidad ningún equipo." Sr. Zach dijo que los fondos que están supuestos a venir del Board of Education están inseguros hasta este momento. El proyecto requiere fondos de otra variedad de recursos, como ciudad, condado, y el Board of Education. El Board of Education está considerando la probabilidad de usar el nuevo estadio para funciones escolares.

## **El CCI Empieza Un Nuevo Programa**

La Corporación de la Comunidad de Ironbound ha empezado un nuevo programa, El Centro de Información y Servicios de Madres Saludables/Bebes Saludables.

"El Centro de Información y Servicios es un sitio donde mujeres pueden ir si ellas creen que están embarazadas para cojer un examen de embarazo y para conseguir el cuidado pre-natal que necesitan," dice Delya Holt, la Directora para el nuevo programa.

Mujeres embarazadas pueden recibir unos cuantos servicios desde "Babyshowers" de la comunidad, inmunizaciones, hasta el programa de WIC. El programa también tiene grupos de apoyo para adolescentes, padres/madres soltero(a)s, abuelos, y seminarios en como criar niños.

Todos los servicios son para mujeres de todas edades y son gratis y confidencial.

Aunque estaba nevando fuerte más de 50 personas ocuparon la oficina de 95 de Fleming Ave., donde el nuevo programa va a operar, para celebrar la gran apertura.

"Nosotros estamos muy complacidos a poder ofrecer estas nuevas y importantes servicios para los residentes de la comunidad de Ironbound," dice Joseph Della Fave, Director Ejecutivo de la Corporación de la Comunidad de Ironbound.

El Centro de Madres Saludables/Bebes Saludables del CCI es uno de dos que se están abriendo en la ciudad de Newark. El otro centro está localizado en 26 de la calle South St., el Club de St. Columba's.

Aracely Roman y Cleo Gonzalez están también trabajando para el nuevo programa de Madres Saludables/Bebes Saludables.

Para más información llame: 344-7208.



**Ironbound Voices** is a project of the Ironbound Community Information Center. We believe that all people are entitled to income, food, clothing, housing, education, and health care. We will print articles about groups taking steps to make this belief a reality. We will also publish information about your legal and social service rights. This issue was published with the help of:

John Barbosa	Nydia Ortiz
Kerry Butch	Alfred Rendeiro
Bob Cartwright	Edna Rodriguez
Arnold Cohen	Juarez Santos
Joe Della Fave	Nancy Zak
Cleo Gonzalez	Madelyn Hoffman

### ***Riverfront Park Slideshow Available***

Do you want to know about the plans for the Riverfront Park along the Passaic River in Ironbound? A slideshow about the proposed park is available. You can arrange to have it presented to your group or organization, with narration in Spanish or English, by calling Kerry Butch from the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste** at 589-3353.

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